



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

CONNECTICUT

April 27, 2018

Mr. Todd Dumais
Town Planner
Department of Community Services
Town of West Hartford
50 South Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06107-2485

RE: University of Saint Joseph, April 25, 2018/ 6:00-7:00pm / Neighbor Meeting on Campus

Dear Mr. Dumais:

This letter is to inform you that the University of Saint Joseph held a meeting on April 25, 2018 from 6:00-7:00pm, in the Crystal Room, for invited neighbors, to discuss the next steps the University is undertaking to expand the athletic facilities @ USJ.

In attendance:

Shawn Harrington, Sr. Vice President, Finance and Strategy, USJ
Andrew Levesque, Facilities Manager, USJ
Barbara Kealey, Executive Assistant, USJ

None of the invited neighbors attended the meeting. Two items are attached for your records; the April 11, 2018 letter/meeting invitation sent to neighbors; and an email response to the letter from a neighbor, Mr. Scott Gamester, with my response to him.

Andrew Levesque will be representing Saint Joseph University at the May 7, 2018 public hearing at 7:15 p.m. in the legislative chamber, room 314, West Hartford Town Hall, 50 South Main Street.



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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April 11, 2018

Dear Neighbor:

I am writing to let you know about the next steps that we are undertaking to expand the athletic facilities at the University of Saint Joseph (USJ).

As part of our transition to become fully coeducational in the fall 2018 semester, we are adding four new men's NCAA Division III sports teams: Basketball, Cross-Country, Soccer, and Swimming/Diving. In order to accommodate both men's and women's teams, visiting teams, and coaching staff, we will be installing four trailers at the O'Connell Athletic Center to provide additional space. These will be located at the rear of the O'Connell Center building, so you may be able to see them when looking at the campus from Albany Avenue.

We are planning to shut down the O'Connell Center from June 1 – August 1, 2018, in order to install these trailers and do some internal renovation work. Our student-athletes are looking forward to having the new space, and the attendant opportunities it will offer, available when they come to campus for the 2018-19 academic year. The Town Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to hold public hearings on our proposal on May 7, 2018.

As we begin our work with the Town of West Hartford, we want to keep our neighbors informed of our plans. For this reason, I am inviting you to an informal meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, from 6:00pm – 7:00pm in the Crystal Room in Mercy Hall on USJ's West Hartford campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue, to talk about the plans for the O'Connell Center and to answer any questions you may have. We hope that you will be able to stop by at that time.

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like more information about our plans, please contact my office. You may contact me by phone at 860-231-5220 or by email at sharrington@usj.edu.

We are excited to welcome our undergraduate students back in August with renovated facilities and new athletics programs; we also seek to maintain the positive relationship that we have enjoyed with the West Hartford community throughout USJ's history. Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, the University of Saint Joseph.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.M. Harrington".

Shawn M. Harrington
Senior Vice President for Finance and Strategy

Kealey, Barbara

Neighbor
April 24

From: Scott Gamester <scott.gamester@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 21, 2018 10:30 AM
To: Harrington, Shawn
Cc: Kealey, Barbara; Foxman, Ruth
Subject: Re: FW: Athletic Facilities proposal

Thanks so much. I read the letter a couple of times and I'm not sure it contains that they are temporary (I read it a couple of times, I'm not saying I'm 100% right but you might want to check)

You are great neighbors and I totally support a temporary solution as you expand. Thanks!

On Fri, Apr 20, 2018 at 3:12 PM, Harrington, Shawn <sharrington@usj.edu> wrote:

Dear Scott,

Thank you for responding to the University's notice to its West Hartford neighbors regarding plans to expand the athletic facilities. We value your input and strive to maintain a good neighbor relationship. As noted in the "Dear Neighbor" letter dated April 11, 2018, the trailers to be installed are temporary in nature as the University considers plans for more traditional space to meet the needs of new athletic programs. We hope that you will be able to join us for the informal hearing scheduled on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Crystal Room in Mercy Hall. Kind regards.

From: Scott Gamester <scott.gamester@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2018 3:30 PM
To: Harrington, Shawn <sharrington@usj.edu>
Subject: Athletic Facilities proposal

Good morning,

I am an abutter to your campus and want to pass some appreciation on for letting us know about your plan changes proactively.

Regarding the trailers, are they intended to be a temporary structure until you can add more traditional space?

While I appreciate your mission, these trailers won't be visible to much of your campus, but will be front and center to your neighbors and I'm hoping they are a temporary solution

Thanks!!

--

J. Scott Gamester

p: 860-264-1027

e: scott.gamester@gmail.com



about.me/gamester